

*State of  
California*

DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF FORESTRY

# NEWS LETTER

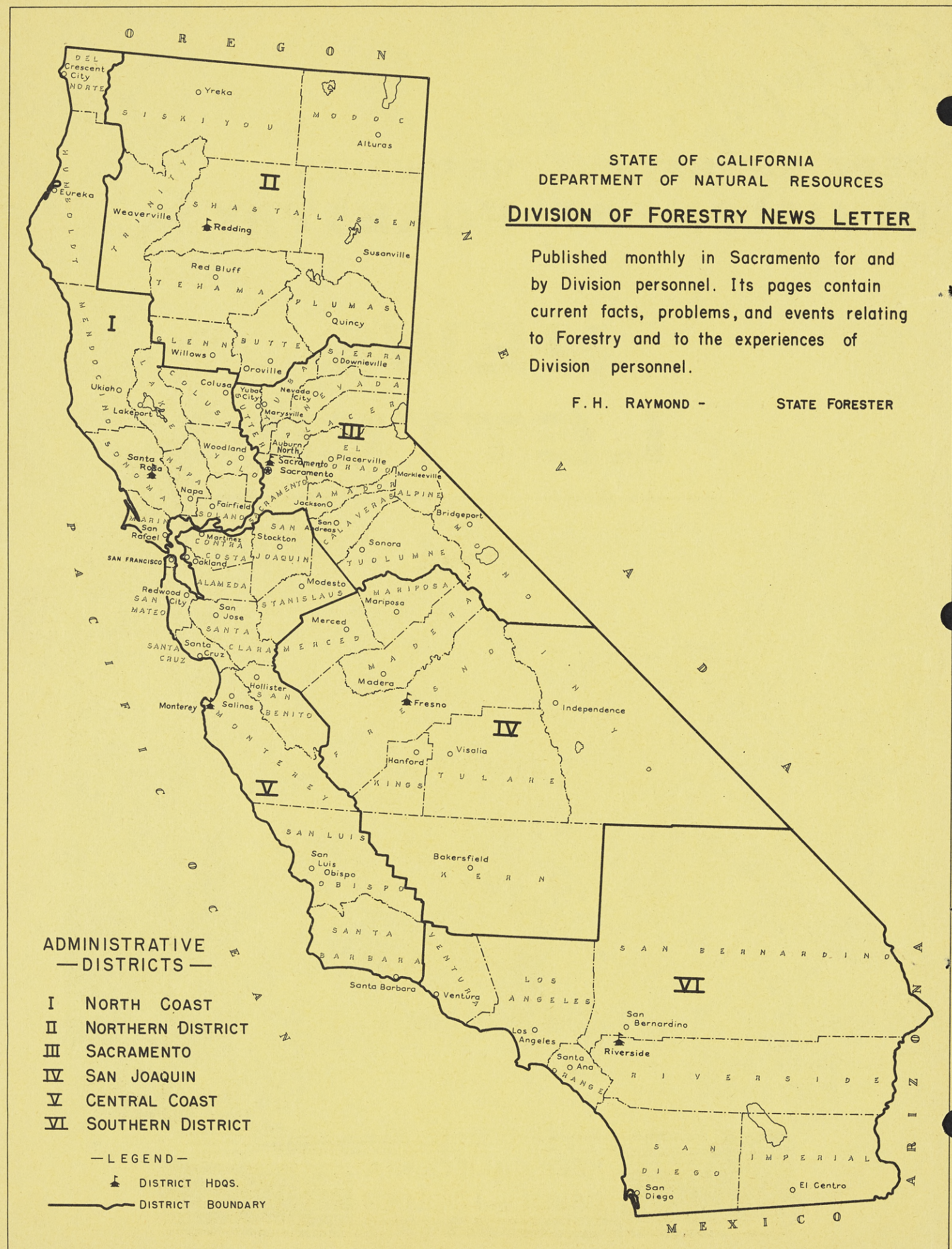
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October 1957  
Vol.16-No-10



KEEP CALIFORNIA  
GREEN and GOLDEN





STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

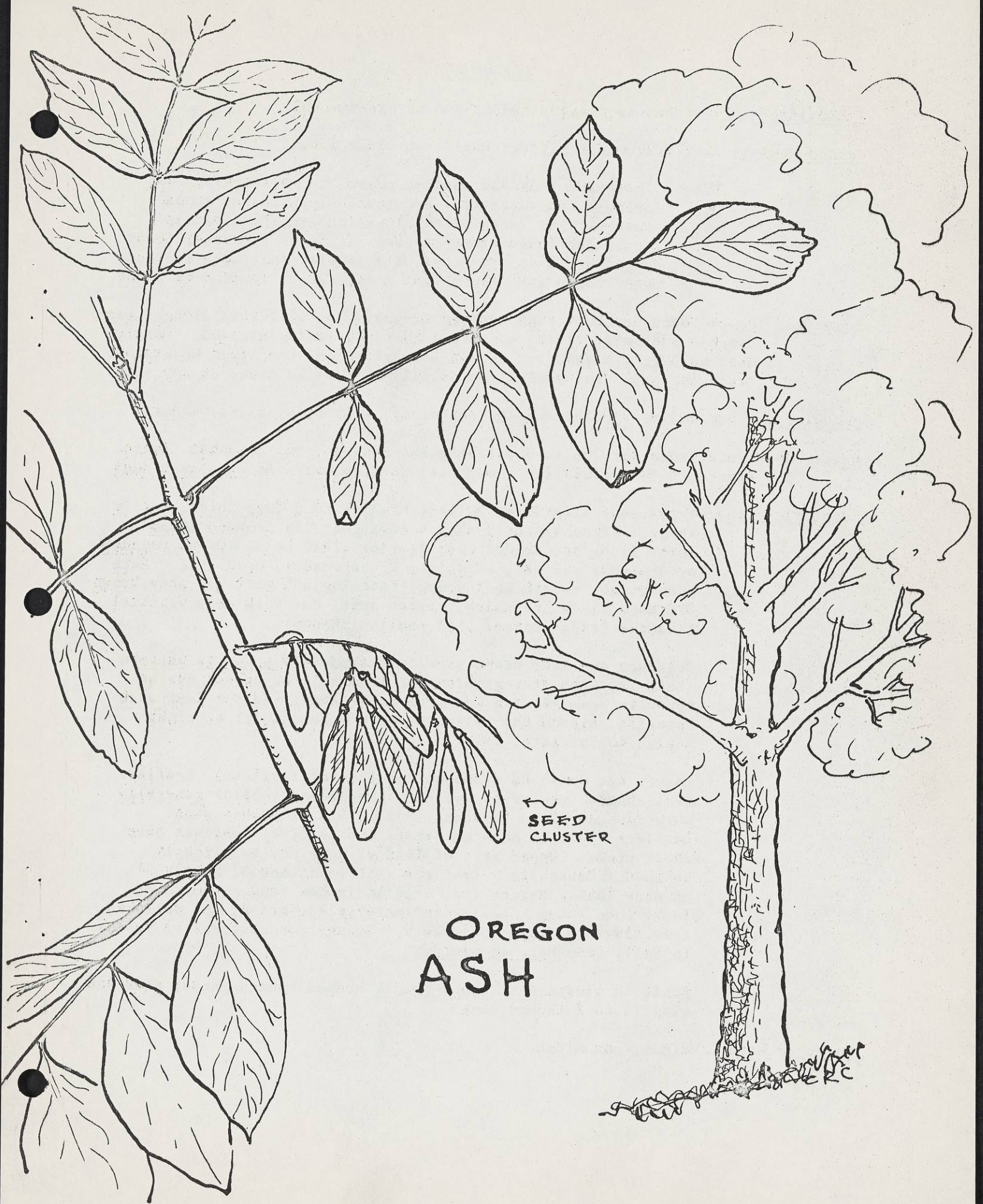
DIVISION OF FORESTRY NEWS LETTER

Published monthly in Sacramento for and by Division personnel. Its pages contain current facts, problems, and events relating to Forestry and to the experiences of Division personnel.

F. H. RAYMOND -

STATE FORESTER





SEED  
CLUSTER

OREGON  
ASH

W. J. BOYD  
1947



## OREGON ASH

Scientific Name: Fraxinus oregona (FRACK-son-us-ore-GO-nuh)

Common Names: Ash, Oregon ash; (rare) water ash black ash.

Note: There are four ash species common to California. Two (Arizona and dwarf ash) are found along desert stream courses. The foothill or flowering ash (F. dipetala) is a shrub found along streams of Sierra and Inner Coast Range, often on dry sites; its leaflet edge more toothed than Oregon ash; young leaf stems square instead of round.

Location: Puget Sound south through western Oregon. In California along stream courses and moist flats, sea level to 4,000 feet elevation. Mostly west of Sierra crest, but in San Bernardino and San Diego Mountains. (rare in west Inyo County.) Generally only a few trees at any site.

Associates: Streamside species; maple, box elder, willow, sycamore, alder.

Uses: Good substitute for the very valuable Eastern ash, but somewhat lighter. Too scarce in California for commercial development. An excellent fuel.

Identification: Trees generally 30 to 50 feet high, 1 to 2 feet thick, rarely larger. Trunks nearly always straight. In crowded stand lower limbs are shaded out, leaving clear bole. Crown rounded or somewhat conical, sometimes widespread in open site. Bark gray-green, smooth when young, becoming ash-gray and gray-brown. Old bark  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick, rather soft, cut with many vertical fissures criss-crossed with shallow channels.

Branches and leaf stems grow in alternately opposite pattern (that is, each stem growing out from twig or branch has an opposite stem growing out from other side, and the next such opposite pair on the twig or branch grow outward at right angles to the first pair)

Leaves are compound (composed of several leaflets) Leaflets oval shaped, generally pointed, except end leaflet generally more rounded; 2 to 5 inches long,  $\frac{3}{4}$  to 2 inches wide. Leaflets opposite on stem except end leaflet; leaflets have short stems. Upper part of leaflet edge may be slightly toothed. Generally 7 leaflets (but sometimes 5, rarely 9) on each leaf. Entire leaf 6 to 14 inches long, stem round, fuzzy when young. Leaf color pale yellow-green, not polished, soft, slightly fuzzy underneath. Leaves turn attractive yellow in fall, tree bare in winter.

Fruit in clusters of canoe-paddle shaped winged seeds; seed and wing  $1\frac{1}{4}$  to 2 inches long.

Confused With: Walnut, box elder.



## SEPTEMBER ACTIVITIES

FIRE CONTROL: The weather during the month was high lighted by two periods of critical fire weather. The last of which ended abruptly when the first big storm of the season moved across the northern part of the State bringing a very heavy concentration of thunder, lightning, and as much as eight inches of rain at some locations.

The following large fires occurred during September:

- September 1 - 800 acres of brush in Lassen-Modoc Counties.
- September 2 - 6,255 acres of brush in Napa-Solano Counties.
- September 3 - 550 acres of grass and slash in Humboldt County.
- September 5 - 1,720 acres of brush and woodland in Butte County.
- September 6 - 4,125 acres of brush in San Diego County.  
730 acres of brush in Riverside County.
- September 7 - 11,000 acres of brush, grass, and woodland in Nevada-Yuba Counties.
- September 7 - 16,360 acres of brush and woodland in San Luis Obispo County.
- September 8 - 600 acres of brush in Nevada-Yuba Counties.  
800 acres of timber and slash in El Dorado County.  
2,200 acres of brush in Tuolumne County.
- September 9 - 700 acres of brush and grass in Tehama County.
- September 21 - 4,830 acres of brush and woodland in San Benito County.  
730 acres of brush in Riverside County.  
1,300 acres of brush in Tehama County.  
1,200 acres of brush and woodland in Shasta County.
- September 24 - 13,300 acres of brush, grass, woodland, and timber in Siskiyou County; 3,500 acres of this land were lands protected by the Division of Forestry; 6,600 acres of land protected by the U. S. Forest Service, and 3,200 acres were in Oregon.

A meeting was held with the U. S. Forest Service at Arcadia to firm up the design for future tank installations in remainder of the T.B.M. aircraft in Region 5. These airplanes are being used as aerial tankers for direct attack on forest fires.

It was agreed the capacity of the tanks should be increased to 600 gallons and that inasmuch as each gate design now in use has certain merit, one more of each should be constructed prior to next fire season.

Studies are now being conducted to find the cause and what can be done to correct gasoline vapor lock conditions in Forestry equipment. This has become an increasingly severe problem with new vehicle design and may require a specially tailored modification to each make unit involved if we are to overcome the problem.

Modern automobile design, i.e., lower, longer, and wider does not lend itself to Forestry use. A study is now under way to determine what can be done, if anything, to modify existing and future units so they will be more useable.

A new fire pump has just been tested at Davis which we feel may be of value for longer hose lays with long vertical lifts and still provide sufficient water where volume is required.



Approximately two weeks were spent in Sacramento and field meetings concerning the research project "Fuelbreak." The meetings were District VI personnel, staff groups from each of the four Southern California National Forests, Los Angeles County representatives, and the Experiment Station personnel connected with this project were aimed at feeling out field attitudes as to what type of research is needed in this area, what has been done up to now, and what research projects can be established which will fit into operational programs now under way.

Data is currently being assembled for transmittal to the California Forest and Range Experiment Station for evaluation by their statistical meteorologist who has been assigned to our Lightning Control Research project. Districts I, II, and III have recorded all their effort this season devoted to lightning control and are therefore the primary contributors to the program. The U. S. Forest Service is co-operating in this project by providing two aircraft (one on part-time basis) in the North Coast area.

The Ranger position set up to co-ordinate the agreements with counties for fire protection has been filled. Part of his job is to make available some of the wealth of knowledge among those people who have pioneered in this field to those counties who have had less experience with this program. This position will satisfy a long felt need for closer relationship with the Board of Fire Underwriters, the State Fire Marshal's office, and Division personnel who administer this program.

#### FIRE PREVENTION

First treatment scripts of the 1957-58 production of motion pictures, television spots, featurettes, and trailers were received from the producer and is being edited.

Questionnaires developed by the Forest Fire Prevention Committee and the contract agency were received and returned for final printing prior to "field" testing in the first phase of the Forest Fire Prevention Research Study.

#### FOREST PRACTICES

Two alternate forest management plans were approved by the State Board of Forestry in San Francisco on September 6, 1957. One plan was submitted by Mrs. Eva Taylor of Jackson, and the other by Jake L. and Virginia A. Schneider, Lloyd C. and Betty Mehrten of Slough House. Both plans permitted the cutting of lodgepole pine down to 18 inches D.B.H. rather than the 22 inches prescribed by the Forest Practice Rules of the South Sierra Pine Forest District to improve the quality of timber by favoring species other than lodgepole pine.

Separate meetings of all the Forest Practice Committees were held in late September to review the Forest Practice Act as amended by the 1957 State Legislature and to permit the State Forester and his legal counsel to discuss problems existing in the inspection and enforcement of the Forest Practice Rules. The Forest District Committees met as follows: South Sierra on September 24th in Sacramento; North Sierra on September 25th in Redding; Coast Range Pine and Fir on September 26th in Eureka; and Redwood on September 27th in Ukiah. Each committee plans to study these matters further and to consider the advisability of amending the Rules in their District.

FORESTRY RESEARCH: A proposed forestry research program to be sponsored by the Division of Forestry was presented to the Board of Forestry meeting in



San Francisco on September 5th and 6th. Increased research of interest to the State in forestry is being made possible by the enactment of Assembly Bill 91 by the 1957 Session of the Legislature which authorizes the annual expenditure of \$100,000. Under this legislation, worthwhile projects as approved by next Session of the Legislature will commence in fiscal year 1958-59. The Board of Forestry approved the projects in the proposed plan. They include the fields of fire prevention and control, forest growth prediction, seed tree effectiveness, bark beetles, dwarf mistletoe, California hardwoods, emergency treatment of burned watersheds, and interception and use of water by herbaceous vegetation. These projects will augment present research projects underway by the Division. It is contemplated that most, if not all, of the research will be contracted to existing forestry research agencies.

**NURSERY:** At its meeting in San Francisco on September 6th, the Board of Forestry approved prices to be paid for planting stock to be distributed by the Division in fiscal year 1957-58. Generally the prices are similar to those established in the previous year. A report also was made to the Board about the results of the past year's activities in production and distribution of planting stock and collection of tree seed for nursery use of the Division. This information was summarized in the August, 1957, activity report.

It is estimated that 2.4 million trees will be available this coming planting season compared with 1.8 million distributed in fiscal year 1956-57.

**FORESTATION:** According to best estimates obtained from various sources, and compiled by the Division of Forestry, there were 1,337 acres planted to trees in California in 1956-57. This compares with 1,608 acres planted in 1955-56, some 271 acres less. Forest industries planted 194 acres in 1956-57 compared to 527 acres in the previous year. Private persons, clubs, and associations planted 839 acres in 1956-57 as against 366 acres in 1955-56. Fifty-three acres of State Forest land were planted during this past season which is about the same amount as the previous year. One hundred eighty-one acres of other State agency lands were planted of which the majority was on the Cuyamaca Rancho State Park in San Diego County. The planting was, as in previous years, carried out on the Conejos burn under the supervision of Forestry and Parks personnel, using forestry work camp inmates as planting crews. Windbreak plantings, mostly in the central valleys, amounted to an estimated 181 acres or about 49 miles of windbreak.

**INSECT CONTROL:** At the September meeting of the State Board of Forestry, a forest insect zone of infestation was approved for the Kings Canyon-Sequoia Park area in Fresno and Tulare Counties. The infested area is comprised of 138,240 acres of which 15,360 acres are privately owned and scattered over six townships. It is estimated there are 300 infested trees on the privately owned lands and 2,500 trees on federal lands. The federal lands are under the jurisdiction of the U. S. Forest Service and National Park Service. There is also a small acreage owned by the University of California (Whittaker Forest). The insects involved are the western pine beetle attacking ponderosa pine, mountain pine beetle attacking sugar pine, and a large buildup of red turpentine beetle attacking both tree species. The control work on private land is to be accomplished with the use of inmates from the Miramonte Honor Camp. An agreement has been approved for the State to do control work on a portion of the federal lands.

**RANGE IMPROVEMENT:** During the summer of 1956 range technicians of the Division of Forestry discovered the weedy annual grass known as medusa-head in the foothills of western Merced County. This was the first occurrence in



San Joaquin Valley. The area of this infestation was carefully investigated and mapped during the spring of 1956 by Harold Wolfram, of our Fresno office. Since that time, ranchers in the area have been alerted and possible control measures explained to them. Reports on the infested area, together with suggested control measures, were published in the Fresno "Bee" and the Merced "Sun-Star."

Two publications recently issued by the Division of Forestry will be of interest to persons in the field of natural resource management, as well as to the general public. "California Range Land," by L. T. Burcham, is a historical and ecological study of the range resource of California, dealing with the development of the range livestock industry in the State, and the effects of livestock grazing on the range lands. "Control of Chamise and Brush Seedlings by Aircraft Spraying," by O. A. Leonard and C. E. Carlson, reports the results of a three-year co-operative study of brush control by the Division of Forestry and the University of California at Davis.

#### UMBERGER COUPLE WILL GO TO JAPAN DECEMBER 2

M/Sgt. Roy M. Umberger Jr., and his bride, the former Dorothy Mina Lewis, are making their home in Sacramento until December 2, when they will leave for Tokyo. Umberger, who is from Lancaster, Pa., and stationed at Mather AFB, will be based at Johnson AFB near Tokyo for three years.

The couple were married in a garden ceremony at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Walter O. Lewis, Rev. James Young of Westminster Presbyterian Church officiated and a garden reception followed.

Attendants were Mr. and Mrs. Walter Comstock. Kenneth Bartlett was at the organ, and guests were served by Mrs. Monte F. Ricketts and Jeannine Hartley.

Bridal attire was a rose beige lace gown with blending hat and shoes. Mrs. Umberger carried a spray of green spider chrysanthemums.

Mrs. Comstock chose a mocca lace gown, underscored with pink taffeta. Hat and shoes were a matching tone, and she carried bronze chrysanthemums.

Prior to the wedding, the former Miss Lewis was honored by co-workers in the Division of Forestry and the Department of Natural Resources with a luncheon in Dick and Eddie's Restaurant. Mrs. Wallace Peterson was hostess for a kitchen shower, and Mrs. Comstock gave a personal shower.

Sacramento Union, October 7, 1957

#### PERSONNEL CHANGES

We are listing below the appointments which have been authorized and completed since the last News Letter was released:

Ronald D. Hanks - promoted from Forestry Work Project Foreman, Monterey County, to Assistant State Forest Ranger, Nevada-Yuba Ranger Unit effective 10-1-57.

Robert R. Carey - promoted from Associate State Forest Ranger, El Dorado County Ranger Unit, to State Forest Ranger I, Calaveras County Ranger Unit, effective 10-1-57.



Lloyd Marx - promoted from Forest Firefighter Foreman to Heavy equipment Mechanic, Redding, effective 10-1-57.

Clinton B. Phillips - promoted from State Forest Ranger I, Sacramento Administration, to State Forest Ranger II, Berkeley, effective 10-31-57.

Michael O. Schori - promoted from State Forest Ranger I, Siskiyou County to Assistant Deputy State Forester, Sacramento Headquarters - Business Management Section, effective 8-30-57.

## DISTRICT II

YOU NEVER KNOW: In May of this year while handling the CDF booth at the Silver Dollar Fair at Chico, Butte County, I had a most unusual experience. About 10:00 o'clock Saturday evening, I had just finished disconnecting Smokey the Bear and extinguished the lights on our exhibit, when a young woman with three little boys appeared outside the exhibit railing. Two of the little boys were jumping up and down in glee, as most children do when they see Smokey, but the third little fellow was clinging to his mother's skirts with his face turned away from Smokey while she consoled him by saying, "It looks as if they are putting Smokey away for the night Greg. We will have to come back tomorrow." Not wanting to disappoint any child, I turned the lights back on and started Smokey's voice again. It was then I noticed that one little boy was still clinging to his mother and apparently crying. As I approached and asked if there was anything I could do, I noticed there was something different about this little fellow. When I got closer, I saw that the boy was blind. I asked his mother if it would be agreeable with her for me to bring the boy inside the railing to let him "see" Smokey in the manner peculiar to the blind, with his hands. She agreed and introduced me to little Gregory Kesterson. I took him inside and let him feel Smokey's feet, legs, body, hands and face and to touch Smokey's voice box, which he seemed to enjoy immensely. Apparently the vibrations gave the child a happy sensation. After this inspection he was no longer afraid of the voice he heard and when placed outside the enclosure, jumped up and down as happy as any normally sighted child.

Upon speaking with the parents, I discovered that there was no opportunity for a sightless child to go to school in Butte County. I had a very difficult time sleeping that night with thoughts of this little fellow going through my mind. My conscience bothered me, as it does most of us when we see things like this. The following Monday I contacted the Butte County Office of Education, with which I had been working in the early part of 1957. They had no program for the blind, but assured me that if enough children were available to make up a class, one might be set up.....

To make a long story short, on August 12th, 1957, the Board of Supervisors of Butte County appropriated enough money to start a combined school for the blind and for the deaf children in Butte County. As of this time there are two teachers in Butte County, one for the blind and one for the deaf and the school is growing.

The Superintendents of schools for Butte County, Yuba County, and Sutter County have gotten together and are discussing the possibility of a Tri-County School for all handicapped children similar to the Star King School in Carmichael, Sacramento County.



As I said in the beginning, you never know what kind of contacts Smokey will lead you to.

Bill Ensbury  
Assistant State Forest Ranger

#### KINGS COUNTY

Curt and Edra are up north after their annual Bucks - son Gene also is after his Buck while the Jeep is handy.

The flu has left its trail within Kings County the past month. Several drivers have been off duty and are returning from day to day. Our stenographer also has been off for a week and will not return until next Monday. Perhaps the clouds in the sky will drop a bit of rain and clear up the air and flu.

Logs have been brought down from Mt. Home for our Fair Exhibit and sometime this winter we can go to work building our log cabin.

Cotton harvest is in full swing and we are having our calls for cotton trailer fires, not much baled cotton has been moving.

Some of our deer hunters are beginning to clean and polish rifles - could be they will put up some "For Sale" signs soon.

N. O. Stephens  
Assistant State Forest Ranger

#### TULARE COUNTY

On September 19th a luncheon meeting of the heads of the various fire services in Tulare County was held in the Johnson Hotel in Visalia, at the invitation of the State Forest Ranger of Tulare County. This meeting lasted about three hours. During the course of the get together mutual problems of varied nature were discussed. The Division in Tulare County is considering asking for funds from the Board of Supervisors in the 1958-59 State and County Joint Fire Protection Budget to employ college boys at a few of our most active county fire stations as "sleepers." The various fire chiefs were invited to tell of their experiences along this line.

The matter of moving the two Civil Defense trucks assigned to the City of Tulare and the City of Porterville in the case of breakdown of trucks in other cities was also discussed to everyone's mutual agreement and understanding.

Chief Glen Depew of the City of Dinuba brought to the meeting information about a recent experience of their department wherein a vendor had filled an oxygen bottle for one of their breathing apparatus with a gas which made one of their firemen sick. The Twining Laboratories of Fresno analyzed the gas to be Nitrogen. This experience was of great interest to all chiefs, and its relating will lead to greater precautions which may eventually save a life or prevent a mishap.

The joint meeting of Chiefs in Tulare County takes place about every two months in the city or area of influence of one of the departments. The instigation of these meetings came about several years ago through the efforts of Forest Ranger "Bill" Mann, who at that time was Ranger in Tulare County and because of the mutual



advantage to all concerned, we are carrying the venture on.

On September the 19th, at the fire house in the City of Tulare, representatives of all the fire services met at a luncheon put on by the wives of the Volunteer Firemen of the City of Tulare. These people were the persons working in fire prevention for the most part. Their purpose in meeting was to have an agency whereby fire prevention activities are discussed and good ideas passed from one department to another. At this initial meeting the matter of co-ordination of effort as concerns working with schools and avoidance of duplication of effort was discussed and decided as a project for future action. A second project which was selected is the writing up in simple form of all possible things for an inspector to watch for in the inspection of homes for aged, children and others, as applies to "fire and panic clearance." The Division has just recently been assigned the responsibility for this work in rural areas on "homes" of six or less persons and the experience of the various city department personnel can be of great help to us as beginners. A committee was assigned to work on this. It was also decided that Division personnel from Kings County would henceforth be invited to this meeting as they are close to us and our problems are mutual.

The next meeting of the fire prevention people will be on October 23rd and Deputy State Fire Marshal Barney Gorum will be present to discuss inspection of Day Nurseries and Rest Homes. Assistant Ranger Cy Holmes, Associate Ranger John Rosar and the writer were in attendance at the initial meeting. We will work our patrolman and others in, from time to time, for training purposes.

G. O. Phibbs  
State Forest Ranger

#### FRESNO RANGER UNIT

Division of Forestry employees working in the Fresno Ranger Unit find it very gratifying to be in the position to be able to pass on to the public the responsibility of the fire department to help people prevent fires as well as suppress them.

It is recognized by fire services that one must be able to prevent fires as well as suppress them. It is with this thought in mind that we in District IV, Fresno Ranger Unit, with the help of the Department of Education, presented to key employees a fire prevention inspection training course.

Mid Valley Fire Protection District, being charged with the protection of life and property from fire within the legal boundaries of the District have, to reduce the loss of life and property by fire, inaugurated a "Home Inspection Prevention" program. With television, radio, and newspaper coverage, the program was initiated and about this time Fire Prevention Week, October 6 to 12 inclusive, came about along with the Fresno District Fair, at which time we developed a miniature cut-away house. It was used throughout the Fair to demonstrate all known home fire causes.

We feel it is a worthy approach in that we have had, for the first time, people stop and visit at our booth and ask questions, and many persons, particularly housewives, come back hours later and ask additional questions.

Persons from PTA, schools, junior colleges, high schools, and service clubs, have already requested that the cut-away house be demonstrated to groups, or as part of health and safety school curricula.



The Mid Valley Fire District Home Inspection Program to date indicates the following deficiencies found: 3 percent of the contacts, poor smoking habits; 30 percent improper waste or debris burning; 20½ percent heating equipment; 23 percent electrical equipment; 6 percent cooking equipment; 34 percent without the required burning permit; and 22 percent in violation of County Ordinance 476, which prohibits the accumulation of flammable material.

With co-operation of those persons already contacted and the self-interest of those to be contacted, we should materially reduce the loss of life and property by fire within the fire district.

W. L. Overstreet, Foreman Dispatcher  
Sanger Headquarters

#### MARIPOSA RANGER UNIT

All of the transfers and promotions are effected at this time and we, like the rest, lost some men and gained others. Bill Shafer, Dispatcher, received his promotion to Assistant Ranger in San Luis Obispo County. "Casey" Light, Assistant Ranger in the West District, moved into the Assistant Ranger-Dispatcher position and Harry Harp, former Firefighter Foreman in San Diego, is now Assistant Ranger in the West District. Good luck to these men in their new jobs!

Our season to this point has been quite successful with no large campaign fires nor have we had too many small fires.

Our control burning season has now come to a close with only one escape for the burns. We did have a control burn this year that unique - the local ranchers made use, for the first time in this district, of the availability of a group of amateur radio operators. This was on the Piney Creek Burn of approximately 1500 acres, which was a co-operative burn with the local ranchers and the University of California. The University for the past five years has been running water runoff tests in the Piney Creek watershed area, and now wishes to see what the comparison will be after a fire has passed through the area. The local ranchers and property owners belong to the Coulterville-Groveland Range Improvement Association, and through the Association contacted a group of amateur radio operators ("hams") from Modesto who were interested in participating in the control burn.

Previous to the date of the burn, a representative group from the Hams joined the inspection party on the burn and determined how they could best get coverage of the entire burn. On the date of the burn - August 24th - the Hams set up a base station at the Penon Blanco Lookout, which overlooked the control burn. From this point the operator could receive or transmit to any of the other operators on the burn. Also, if needed, the Division of Forestry could be contacted by giving the Lookout the message, and the lookout, by way of a 10-watt radio, could relay the message to the CDF units.

On the fire line there were two more high-output radios, - one on the east side of the fire was a mobile unit in the operator's pickup, and on the west side there was a stationary radio and portable generator. In addition, there was an operator and walkie-talkie with each of the five burning parties. Also, Ike Brunette (fire boss) had an operator and mobile unit in his jeep pickup. By this use of the radios, the Fire Boss could co-ordinate his burning crews and know what was going on on the whole fire line at all times.



The ranchers were quite pleased with the way it worked, and the Hams were glad of the opportunity to put their radios to use. Both organizations are looking forward to more of this type work where the use of radios are practiced.

Frank E. Crossfield  
Associate State Forest Ranger

"SHOW-ME" TRIPS  
MOUNTAIN HOME STATE FOREST

In an effort to acquaint local residents in Tulare County with the work and programs being conducted on the Mountain Home State Forest by both CDC and CDF personnel, three "Show-Me" trips were hosted by Forest Technician Otter during last September and early October.

Visitors to this forest of these special trips included local land owners, representatives of the Soil Conservation District, Range Improvement Association, "Y" Men's Club, Chamber of Commerce, Sequoia National Forest, Southern California Edison Company, and press representatives.

Each tour concluded with an evening meal at the Honor Camp and a discussion of the reforestation, timber sales, stand improvement, and other projects seen during the day's tour.

The "Show-Me" trip idea was promoted by Assistant Ranger Jim Stanley and was an out-growth of joint CDC-CDF training session at Mountain Home. We feel certain such a program goes far in a better understanding of our State Forest Program. Certainly those who participated will pass along a better understanding of the program to many others as a result of their first-hand experiences in the forest.

C. E. Metcalf, Deputy State Forester

LETTER OF COMMENDATION FOR INMATES OF HONOR CAMP 10-A

"Mr. Van Winkle, Electrician Foreman and Paul W. Friedrichs, Forestry Work Project Foreman, are taking this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation for the co-operation shown us by the men that were assigned to the building of the power line.

"During the three months that it took to build the line, these men were asked to do things that were completely strange and new to them. They would listen to the instructions and then go ahead with the work. When asked to take things on their backs and carry them to the next pole, they would do so and then come back for more without being told.

"There were times when working on the Wishon side, that they did not have their full noon time when things were pressing and we were working short hours and they still co-operated with us.

"Some of the men were asked to climb poles, which they did through their own initiative and were good linemen. Others were asked to frame poles which they did with accuracy and neatness. Others were asked to be ground men and without these the man on the pole has hard work and they fulfilled this job placement very well.



"All in all we think that we had an outstanding crew and that it was a pleasure to work with these men.

/s/ W. J. Van Winkle  
Electrician Foreman  
/s/ Paul W. Friedrichs  
Forestry Work Project Foreman"

#### DISTRICT VI

Rex Bassett, the local Storekeeper for the District, came to work one day and said, "I've got too much apartment house property in Long Beach to manage from this far away. I'm going to have to resign." And thus he did. We gave him a little party and presents, and have since missed his work and sly humor very much.

Coming into the District about the time Rex left was the large Santana Task Force. With memory of eight rough October-December periods out of the past nine years, they looked mighty good to us. However, we are beginning to wonder a little. After a normal September weather and fire occurrence, October has become calm and serene. In fact, we even got two inches of rain and the temperature dropped about twelve points below normal, while humidity averaged 15 above the normal 30. There was only one mild Santana for the Santana Task Force to combat.

Riverside County taxpayers just gave us another Schedule A station, this one at Nuvieu, east of Perris.

The Southern California Training Center opens for business November 4th, under the Headmaster, Curly Francis. The site is at our Ramona Station.

From the same location, Ramona Warehouse, comes information that Foreman Nick Pfeister has been off on compensation with a cardiac condition. We know his many friends will wish him an early improvement.

Welcomed into District Headquarters today is our new Assistant Deputy, John Hastings. He is a welcome sight, not only because we've been without one most of the time for a long time, but because he won a high regard back in 1948-50 while Assistant Ranger in San Diego County.

Associate Ranger Tom Bryan, now at District III Headquarters but once a San Bernardino County Associate, came back south for a vacation recently. While here, he found a few hours on his hands and grabbed a rifle. Up and over the "Rim" he went beyond Big Bear Lake and shortly beaded a buck. This made the local boys wonder if there was any truth in the old saying that "You're wasting your time in these hills." So out they went. Result: Nine men each got their buck and only one-half hour from San Bernardino City. They say the meat was good, too.

Doug Glenn, Dispatcher

Fire Chief Littleton of the San Bernardino City Fire Department recently requested our Ranger Unit to assist with the City's Fire Training School. The City has approximately 1800 acres of primary watershed within its incorporated limits. Their Department presently has four tanker-type fire trucks, three of which are all-wheel drive in addition to the regular design of fire apparatus for normal structure fire problems. They have a total compliment of approximately 130 men assigned to eight (8) fire stations. Three of these stations are so situated that apparatus can



and does respond on first-alarm watershed fires. The City Fire Department can put into the field a trained hand crew since they maintain a supply of conventional forest fire suppression hand tools.

With all due credit to the foregoing, it is no doubt obvious, of course, that mutual aid continues to play a tremendous part in protecting the watershed lands within the incorporated city. In turn the City Fire Department has responded during the watershed fire problems of recent years, as in the past, with strong assignments of apparatus and personnel to assist the California Division of Forestry, U. S. Forest Service, and Mountain Fire Districts.

Foreman R. G. Barrows was the Chief Instructor, assisted by P. W. Scott, C. Ulrey, Andrew Burke, plus Frank Watson, F.C.A., San Bernardino National Forest. The training consisted of two days of instruction covering basic forest firefighting.

Instructor Barrows divided the course activity between the classroom located in the Devils Canyon Camp Ground and immediate environs for actual field instruction. Points stressed throughout were "Hold That Line With Dirt," "Water Application," and "Personal Safety."

A complete set of 35mm color slides were taken and will be provided the San Bernardino City Fire Department Training Officer for follow-up training.

W. W. Skinner  
State Forest Ranger

#### NEWSLETTER PUBLICATION CORRECTION

Reference is made to the News Letter, July issue, 1957, Volume 16, Number 7, Article: "Training Program in Shasta County," page 8, third paragraph.

"The planning and execution of this program was the responsibility of Buel Hunt who recently has been promoted to Ranger in charge of the District III Training Center ....."

I had not even a remote connection with this training program in Shasta County. Associate Ranger Hal Nixon should have had this credit.

I brought this error to the attention of the Sacramento office verbally as soon as I read it and expected to see a correction in the August-September issue, but as far as I can determine there was no correction.

I feel that this type of error could be very detrimental for the Shasta County men may presume that I was trying to claim credit for the good work someone else has done.

I would appreciate it if you would take steps to correct this error.

Buel Hunt  
State Forest Ranger